

Application No.: 09/889875
Docket No.: CL1375 US PCT

Page 2

Amendments to Claims

1. (Original) A composition comprising nylon 6, nylon 66, or a mixture thereof, with about 1%-50% by volume of a mineral filler having an aspect ratio of less than about 5, the filler having an average equivalent spherical diameter in the range of about 0.1 to less than about 3.5 micrometers, and a saturated organic acid, a salt thereof, or a mixture thereof, at a concentration of at least 0.5% by weight of the mineral filler.
2. (Currently amended) The composition according to Claim 1 wherein the composition comprises about 5-30% by volume of a the mineral filler.
3. (Currently amended) The composition according to Claim 1 wherein the composition comprises about 10-20% by volume of a the mineral filler.
4. (Original) The composition according to Claim 1 wherein the average equivalent spherical diameter is about 0.5 to about 2 micrometers.
5. (Original) The composition according to Claim 1 wherein the concentration of saturated organic acid, salt thereof, or mixture thereof is in the range of about 0.5-4%.
6. (Original) The composition according to Claim 1 wherein the saturated organic acid, salt thereof, or mixture thereof comprises one or more saturated fatty acids, salts thereof, or a mixture thereof.
7. (Original) The composition according to Claim 6 wherein the saturated fatty acid is stearic acid.
8. (Original) The composition according to Claim 4 wherein the saturated organic acid is stearic acid at a concentration of about 2% by weight on the weight of the filler.
9. (Currently amended) The composition according to Claim 1 wherein the mineral inorganic mineral filler is calcium carbonate or titanium dioxide.
10. (Currently amended) ~~The composition according to Claim 1 comprising a A shaped article~~ comprising the composition according to Claim 1.
11. (Currently amended) A process for forming a composition comprising the steps of:
 - (a) combining nylon 6, nylon 66, or a mixture thereof with a mineral filler having an aspect ratio of less than 5, the filler having an average equivalent spherical diameter in the range of about 0.1 to less than 3.5 micrometers, and a saturated organic acid, salt thereof, or mixture thereof, at a concentration of at least about 0.5% by weight of the mineral filler, the filler and polymer the nylon being combined at a weight ratio given by the formula:

$$Wf/Wp = [VF/(1-VF)] \cdot Df/Dp$$

Application No.: 09/889875
Docket No.: CL1375 US PCT

Page 3

where W_f is the weight of the filler, W_p is the weight of the ~~polymer~~ the nylon, V_F is the desired volume fraction of filler, in the range of about 0.01-0.5, D_f is the density of the filler, and D_p is the density of the ~~polymer~~ the nylon;

- (b) heating the combination to a temperature above the melting point of the nylon to form a molten composition;
- (c) mixing the molten composition to provide a homogenous melt; and,
- (d) cooling the molten composition.

12. (Original) The process of Claim 11 wherein V_F is in the range of about 0.10-0.20.

13. (Original) The process of Claim 11 wherein the average equivalent spherical diameter is about 0.5-2 micrometers.

14. (Currently amended) The process of Claim 11 wherein the saturated organic acid, salt thereof, or mixture thereof comprises a saturated fatty acid acids, ~~salts~~ salt thereof, or a mixture thereof.

15. (Original) The process of Claim 13 wherein the saturated organic acid is stearic acid at a concentration of about 2% by weight on the weight of the filler.

16. (Original) The process of Claim 14 wherein the saturated fatty is stearic acid.

17. (Currently amended) The process of Claim 11 wherein the mineral ~~inorganic~~ filler is calcium carbonate or titanium dioxide.